Funds for vocational higher secondary education in Kerala

653. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the competent authority had sanctioned more than Rs. 18 crore to Kerala, *vide* letter dated 31st March, 2005, related to vocational higher secondary school;

(b) if so, whether the competent authority of the State had represented for revalidation of the above fund;

(c) if so, whether the above representation had been acceded to; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) On 31.3.2005, sanction was accorded to the payment of Rs. 18.25 crore and to release an amount of Rs. 14.25 crore to the State Government of Kerala under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education.

(b) to (d) The request of the State Government of Kerala for revalidation of the above amount for the financial year 2007-08 could not be acceded to as the grant had remained unspent for 2 years.

NUEPA survey on primary education

654. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ranking of States done by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) in elementary education;

(b) the details of parameters of Educational Development Index (EDI), which formed the basis of ranking;

(c) how this ranking and EDI of different States, reflects upon the performance of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in those States; and

(d) which are BIMRAU States and what steps have been taken to improve their performance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) To assess progress of States and Union Territories towards the goal of Universalisation of Elementary Education, an Educational Development Index (EDI), has been developed by National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA). The EDI has been developed on four broad parameters of access, infrastructure, teacher related indicators and elementary education outcomes. State-wise ranking on a composite index for primary and upper primary level of education based on 2005-06 data, is given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) Educationally Backward States receive priority in allocation of funds under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. In addition, capacity building of these States through trainings and workshops has been undertaken, especially in components in which these States are not performing well.